

**(WO/2003/106137) APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING AIR-CUSHIONINH MATERIAL AND THE MATERIAL**

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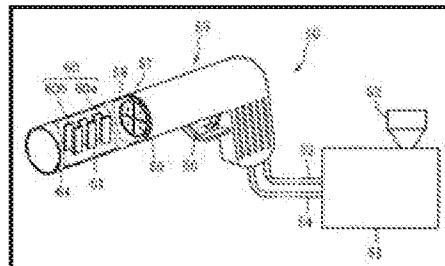
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**Title:** APPARATUS FOR PRODUCING AIR-CUSHIONINH MATERIAL AND THE MATERIAL

**Abstract:** An air-cushioning material and an apparatus for producing the material, where the material is capable of reliably preventing a product or a part from being broken or deformed. An air-cushioning material-producing apparatus produces an air-cushioning material in the following way. Molten resin is sent out from a resin melting/extruding apparatus (51) through a hose (53) provided with a heater, and compressed air is sent out by a hose (54). A resin hollow-cylindrical body is formed by discharging molten resin from a resin discharge opening (58) where four adjacent closed loops are formed in a molten resin discharge member (57) of an air-cushioning material-forming machine (55). One end of the hollow-cylindrical body is cooled in a cooling section (60) and pressed and sealed by a press member (61) so as to form a resin hollow-cylindrical body having the bottom. Compressed air is blown from an air blow-out/exhaust opening (59) provided at a position surrounded by the closed loop-like resin discharge opening (58) so that the resin hollow-cylindrical body is made to contain air inside. The other end is pressed and sealed by the press member (61) while extra air in the resin hollow-cylindrical body is being exhausted from the air blow-out/exhaust opening (59). In this way, an air-cushioning material (10) having sealed both ends (12a, 12b) and adjacent four air cells (11) is produced.



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